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For more information please visit: International Scientific Cooperation

Chile hopes to cooperate with Canada: priorities are spelled out

On April 30, 2007, a nine-member Chilean delegation visited the Research Branch to discuss scientific cooperation. As a result of this mission, the Markets and Industry Services Branch and the International Scientific Cooperation Bureau met last April 24, with the Ambassador and the First Secretary of the Chilean Embassy in Ottawa to continue discussions.

The Ambassador Ortega reaffirmed the interest of Chile in developing scientific cooperation with Canada. A number of opportunities were identified, including: 1) research on potatoes; 2) research on biofuels such as ethanol; 3) development of new fruit varieties; 4) precision farming; 5) geomatics; 6) climate change; 7) wine production; 8) production of bioproducts from agricultural waste; 9) research on inoculants; and 10) organic farming.

Chile is interested in cooperating with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and other Canadian institutions, such as University of Guelph and Laval University. In selected topics, other South American countries might also join the cooperative initiative.

Dr. Yvon Martel, First Secretary M. Fidel Coloma, Dr. Johanne Boisvert and Mr. Alan Schlachter, MISB

Contact: Dr. Yvon Martel

2008 CIFST/AAFC Conference

The 2008 annual Canadian Institute of Food Science and Technology (CIFST) /Agriculture and Agri Food Canada (AAFC) conference was held in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island from May 25 to 27, 2008. This year, the conference on "food and environmentally friendly processing systems" was attended by more than 300 delegates from scientific, university and industrial sectors in Canada and Europe.

As part of this event, the International Scientific Cooperation Bureau held the International Symposium on Food and Health - Research for the Future: Enhancing Agri Food Scientific Cooperation with the European Union, chaired by Dr. Yvon Martel, Chief Scientist, International, AAFC.

The subjects addressed allowed participants to become familiar with the latest scientific cooperation models and to examine new possibilities for increased cooperation between Canada and the European Union, sponsor of the 7th framework program.

The symposium presentations will soon be available on our Web site.

Dr. Yvon Martel, Mrs. Patricia Ockwell, Dr. Antonio Di Giulio, Dr. Rory Francis, Mrs. Carole Morneau, Dr. Xavier Leverve, Dr. Diassina Di Maggio, Dr. Valerie Rollant and Mrs. Lyna Guilbault

Contact: Lyna Guilbault

Dairy Farmers of Canada discussed Accessing Leading International Technology with the ISCB

Dairy Farmers of Canada is interested in using the best available technology to ensure high-quality and competitive milk production and transformation. Much of the technology used by farmers was developed in Canada, but Canadian farmers are increasingly interested in the technology being discovered and used in the rest of the world. The Netherlands is known for its advanced knowledge in milk production and a visit by the President of Dairy Farmers of Canada to research centres in New Zealand also revealed that New Zealanders have excellent milk fractionation technology and milk fractions that could be of interest to Canadians. Discussions were centred on how scientific cooperation with other countries can help access leading technologies world-wide.

Dr. Yvon Martel, Mr. Jacques LaForge and Mr. Richard Doyle

Contact: Dr. Yvon Martel

AIC Discusses International Cooperation with ISCB

The Agricultural Institute of Canada (AIC) has a long history. It has several roles, including the publication of scientific journals, but it is also interested in international cooperation. For example, AIC is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for international agronomic development. Both AIC and AAFC have an interest in discussing common areas of

agronomic challenges in Canada and internationally. Among the themes of common interest are the diversification of Canadian agriculture into non-food bioproduct production and AAFC's soil science expertise to help other countries in need of knowledge and technology for improved yields and food production.

Mr. Tom Beech, AIC International Coordinator; Dr. Yvon Martel, Chief Scientist, International; Mr. Myles Frosst, CEO-AIC

Contact: Dr. Yvon Martel

AAFC's Research Branch and MISB Looking at an Integrated Approach for International Scientific Cooperation

Dr. Kian Fadaie from Market and Industry Services Branch is on an assignment with Research Branch's International Scientific Cooperation Bureau (ISCB). She will be conducting a study and developing recommendations on how AAFC can integrate its Science and Innovation efforts with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) mandate and responsibilities. Her assignment will be end in Fall 2008. She can be reached by phone at 613-694-2521.

Dr. Yvon Martel and Dr. Kian Fadaie

Contact: Dr. Yvon Martel

Invitation to Canada to actively take advantage of all the possibilities under "Marie Curie" Actions

All the Marie Curie actions are generally opened to international participation and Canadians can therefore participate in the activities designed for the international community.

In addition, Canada has concluded an S&T Agreement with the EU and a Canadian mobility web site is linked to the European Union mobility portal.

There are three different types of fellowships being given for the People Marie Curie Programme 2008. The deadline for submitting applications is August 20, 2008 at 17:00 (Brussels local time).

1. The Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowships for Career Development (IEF) aims at supporting experienced researchers at various stages of their career, helping them to acquire new research skills (multi- or interdisciplinary) or undertake intersectoral experiences.

2. The Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowship (IIF) aims at encouraging top class researchers for third countries to work on research projects in Europe, with a view to developing mutually beneficial research cooperation between Europe and third countries.

3. The Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellowship for Career Development (IOF) aims at offering European researchers the opportunity to be trained and to acquire new knowledge in a third country high-level research organization, and subsequently return to an organization in a Member State or Associated Country.

For more information please visit:

FP7: the future of European Union research policy

Euraxess: Researchers in Motion

European Commission - Research

Contact: Carole Morneau

ISCB's Activity Report

The International Scientific Cooperation Bureau's (ISCB) activity report is now available.

The report describes AAFC's international science activities from January 2004 to December 2006, as well as the efforts and contributions of all the individuals - managers, researchers and others - who have collaborated in these activities, thereby helping promote Canadian expertise around the world.

It also describes Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC) International Scientific Strategy (ISS), explains the ISCB's role and updates AAFC's commitments with intergovernmental scientific organizations.

Contact: Lyna Guilbault

Round table Canada-Europe on Food, Health and Well-Being

At Saint-Hyacinthe, on May 23rd, the International Scientific Cooperation Bureau and the head office of the National Program on Food Safety and Quality welcomed representatives of the European Commission's Food - Health - Well-Being unit, from the Institut des nutraceutiques et des aliments fonctionnels (INAF) and from the Centre québécois de valorisation des biotechnologies (CQVB) to discuss the different avenues for scientific cooperation between Canada and Europe, notably under the 7th European framework program.

The round table allowed participants to exchange views on the many challenges marking the coming of age of the new generation of cooperation. A very new scientific cooperation mechanism, called "twinning", will create links among several Canadian and European partners in the realization of new research initiatives to respond to the priorities in food, health, and well-being sector.

The research projects and initiatives that can be twinned will be jointly selected by the participants of a twinning workshop. Canadian and European project leaders will be invited to participate. Scientific excellence and public interest research will be the main criteria for selection.

Contact: Clelia Martrès

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